

HONORING WILL GILL, JR., SENIOR
FARMER OF THE YEAR

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 17, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Will Gill, Jr., as the Madera County Chamber of Commerce and Madera County Farm Bureau Senior Farmer of the Year. Mr. Gill will be recognized at the Madera County Farm Bureau's 82nd Annual Members Meeting and Senior Farmer Presentation on November 6 in Madera, CA.

Will's dedication to his country and his strong work ethic have brought much success for him and his family. He has contributed 61 years to Madera County agriculture. Mr. Gill's family, natives of Iowa, migrated to Porterville, CA, in the 1870s and an agriculture legacy began. By the 1940s, the family's ranching operations were flourishing in Porterville and Madera. Upon the death of his father, Will, and his wife Jane, moved from Southern California to Madera to manage the family's local agriculture interests. Not long after his arrival, he was sent to Fort Sill, OK, where the U.S. Army needed his service in the midst of WWII. Mr. Gill served as an army sergeant of the Military Police in the China-Burma-India Theatre. In 1946, Will returned to Madera and resumed his work in the family's crop and livestock investments, which included oat and alfalfa hay, cows, and stocker and feeder cattle.

As a proud member of many organizations and the recipient of several awards, Will is no stranger to his community. He served on Governor Ronald Reagan's Advisory Committee on Foreign Trade, was past-president of the Madera Rotary Club, a member of the Madera County Air Pollution Board, a 60-year member of the California Cattlemen's and National Cattlemen's Associations, and the list goes on. Will was named Madera County Cattleman of the Year in 1963 and California Livestock Man of the Year in 1972. His favorite venture, raising quarter horses, has made his 53-year membership to the American Quarter Horse Association particularly enjoyable. The list of Will's achievements and commitments goes on, reinforcing his benevolent character.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Will Gill, Jr., for being named Senior Farmer of the Year by the Madera Chamber of Commerce and Madera County Farm Bureau. His contributions to America's agriculture communities have been invaluable. I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Gill for this achievement.

HONORING MASTER FOLTA

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 17, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Master Nestor Folta on his 50th birthday and 20 years of successful Uechi-Ryu Karate study.

Master Folta is a civil engineer with the U.S. Department of Energy. He resides in Oakton with his wife and two children. For years, he has dedicated notable time and energy to the study and teaching of Uechi-Ryu Karate.

Uechi-Ryu is traditional Okinawan Karate, developed by Master Kanbun Uechi and his son Kanei Uechi. Uechi-Ryu has its origin in the ancient Chinese tradition of martial arts. Today, it is the only form of Okinawan Karate that remains in its original Soke, handed down from father to son from generation to generation.

Master Folta is a seven-time world champion of Uechi-Ryu and an inductee in the martial arts hall of fame. He has demonstrated a strong aptitude for and commitment to the study of karate.

The Academy of World Champion Nestor Folta (AWCNF), located in Fairfax County, carries on the Uechi-Ryu tradition. Through the study of Uechi-Ryu Karate, over 100 AWCNF students learn self-defense, self-discipline, and self-respect. Uechi-Ryu encourages the formation of high personal standards and respect for fellow men and women. The AWCNF's mission is to use Uechi-Ryu to help students become positive, successful, respected, contributing members of society.

Each year, AWCNF tuition raises an estimated \$25,000 for Fairfax County. In addition, the AWCNF has raised over \$20,000 for 9/11 victims.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to recognize Master Folta's efforts to better himself, his students, and his community through the practice of Uechi-Ryu. I wish him a happy birthday, commend 20 years of success, and extend him all of my best for the years to come. I call upon all my colleagues to join me in applauding Master Folta.

HONORING WILLIAM J. MULVIHILL, SR. AS HE RECEIVES THE ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION'S CHARLES B. HARDING AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 17, 2003

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William J. Mulvihill, a friend and constituent, who received the Arthritis Foundation's prestigious Charles B. Harding Award during the Foundation's national meeting on November 14, 2003. The Arthritis Foundation is the only nationwide nonprofit organization leading efforts to prevent, control and cure arthritis, which is our nation's number one cause of disability.

The Charles B. Harding Award is the highest honor the Arthritis Foundation presents for service as a volunteer. The award was established in 1976 and is given annually to the individual who best exemplifies the highest standards of concern and commitment to the arthritis cause. Previous recipients of this high honor include former First Lady Betty Ford and actress Jane Wyman.

Bill has spent more than 20 years raising awareness and advocating on behalf of the more than 43 million people affected by arthritis and its related diseases. Diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis at the age of 25, he became active locally in the Southwestern Ohio Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation, and went on to serve as Senior Chair, Chair and Vice President.

In 1985, Bill became active with the Foundation on the national level, becoming a mem-

ber of the House of Delegates and later National Vice Chair, Treasurer, a member of the Board of Trustees and National Chair. As National Chair, he was responsible for leading nearly 600,000 volunteers and staff nationwide. He is currently Trustee Emeritus, and is a member of the National Medical and Scientific Council. Bill also serves on the Board of Directors of the Alliance for Lupus Research, where he is a founding member.

A native Cincinnati, Bill is Senior Associate Athletic Director at the University of Cincinnati, and has been with U.C. for 30 years. He is in his 24th year as head of the athletic department's fundraising efforts, and previously held positions in Alumni Affairs and Public Affairs. He is a graduate of St. Xavier High School, and received his Bachelor's of Business Administration from the University of Cincinnati and his Master's of Education from Ohio University.

Bill and his wife, Beth, live in Anderson Township. Their son, Billy, is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and is a valued member of the staff of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Ways and Means.

All of us in Southern Ohio congratulate Bill on receiving this prestigious honor, and appreciate his dedicated service.

**RECOGNITION OF THE ARMED
FORCES RELIEF TRUST FUND**

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 17, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding efforts of the National Association of Broadcasters for their partnership with the Armed Forces Relief Trust Fund. The Armed Forces Relief Trust Fund serves as an umbrella organization incorporating the four Military Aid Societies from the Army, Navy-Marine, Air Force and Coast Guard collecting and distributing donations that help reduce the burden on families of our military men and women. The partnership with National Association of Broadcasters will help create and broadcast public service announcements to encourage Americans to donate to the Armed Forces Relief Trust Fund.

While our military men and women are serving our country, it is paramount that the American people band together so that we can ensure that no family incurs hardships while their loved one is away. Military aid programs, funded by private donations, provide services like college tuition for children and health care for pregnant wives, services that could have been provided if their family member had not been called to duty. Last year alone, the four military aid societies provided over \$109 million in grants and interest free loans to 145,000 families.

I am confident that with the help of the National Association of Broadcasters the Armed Forces Relief Trust Fund can far exceed the number of families it was able to help last year. As an increasing number of Americans answer the call to duty, more and more families will be asking the Armed Forces Relief Trust Fund for help. The public service announcements developed by The National Association of Broadcasters will help to increase donations and insure that the trust fund has the solvency to answer this call.